

# Kibidula News

April - June 2006

## Introducing New Staff Members

It is more than a year ago that I received an e-mail from Thomas Riederer, asking whether I would like to work for Kibidula. His message came as a big surprise, especially because his e-mail reached me in one of the furthest and most isolated parts of the world...

### **My background**

I grew up in Switzerland, as a Catholic. Since my early childhood I liked numbers and all that was related to it, so I decided to get training in accounting, economics, and law.

At that time I met Adventist people who introduced me to the Biblical truth. God had reached me through numbers (I liked all the calculations in Daniel and Revelation!), and I decided to get baptized into the SDA church in 1989. One year later, I went to France to work for Country Life Paris, a self-supporting ministry, and I appreciated the dedication and the international atmosphere very much.

Jean-Luc Waber, the then director of Country Life Basel – Switzerland, asked me whether I would like to join their team when I returned from France. I said yes and started working in Basel at the end of 1990. It was a nice experience to help start that project in Basel. I worked there for more than a year, when the Adventist Publishing House in Switzerland called me to work as its office secretary. I kept in touch with the Country Life in Basel and returned some years later to take care of its accounting as a part time accountant beside the work in the Publishing House.

In 1997 I started working for the Euro-Africa Division in Berne, first as an office secretary, later as its chief accountant. Again I appreciated the international atmosphere, the contacts with different countries and cultures. I was permitted to travel to different places (Portugal, Czech Republic, and Bulgaria) to help the church offices in accounting questions. During my vacation I visited ADRA offices in Tunisia and Togo. God used these trips to show me the beauties of the different parts of the world and HE slowly led me to understand: HE wanted me to leave the comfort zone of Switzerland and work abroad. It took me some time to accept this idea, but I could feel HIS guiding in many ways, so I finally said: "If You want me to leave Switzerland and go abroad, You have to call me."

Well - the call came a few weeks later: From the ADRA office in North Korea! I had been in contact with that office for several months due to business reasons, and I happened to know the Country Director as he is also Swiss. That office had an urgent need for a Finance Director and they decided to call me. Knowing that this was the answer to my

prayer I accepted the call. I gave up my apartment, said goodbye to my church in Biel and left Switzerland in October 2004 heading to Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea.

### **The change**

And there in Pyongyang Thomas' e-mail reached me in April 2005, just 6 months after I had started working for ADRA. I liked my job with ADRA very much, the circumstances in North Korea were not always easy, but we had a good team and I felt that I was working where God wanted me to be. I told Thomas that I had a contract till September 2006 (which was later even extended to September 2007) and I would want to finish my contract with ADRA before I consider a change.

But things often take a different turn than what we think: Just a few months later, the North Korean government decided to send NGO's out of the country as per December 2005, so all of a sudden ADRA was faced with the fact to leave North Korea. I was sad about this decision, but I knew that God is in control and this would open new ways for our ADRA team to serve elsewhere.

I had different options to choose from (ADRA would have liked to keep me in Asia) but when praying about it I realized that God was calling me to a new continent: Africa! I left Asia in late December 2005, I spent 3 months in Switzerland to close the accounting books of ADRA North Korea and got ready for my trip to Tanzania.

### **New and old**

End of March 2006 I arrived in Dar-es-Salaam and it was funny to have Jean-Luc (working for Kibidula since 2002) welcoming me at the airport! Already on my way inland

I appreciated the green nature (it was the end of the rainy season) and I was happy to see elephants and giraffes when we drove through Mikumi National Park. I spent my first 6 weeks close to Iringa in a Language School to learn Swahili. This was a nice experience and I enjoyed my time there very much. Middle of May I have now settled in at Kibidula. To my big amazement I found similarities with North Korea, that I would not have expected: e.g. when the people in the area speak Swahili they do not distinguish between the letters L and R!

My assignment is to be the new Kibidula accountant and support the whole team in administrative needs. I am looking forward to being part of the growth of Kibidula and to assisting the projects with the talents God gave me.



**Irma**

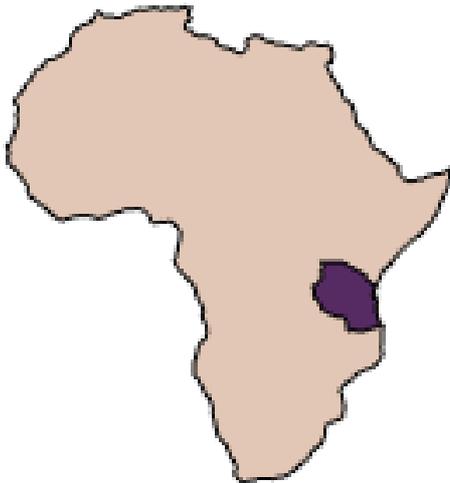
*By Irma Bauder*

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current project needs

- \$4.50 per Bible - Bible Gift Fund
- Translation and Publication of Swahili Literature.
- \$20,000 - Dormitories for Agricultural Students
- \$60 will sponsor 1 Lay Missionary in an un-entered area for 1 month.
- \$200 will sponsor a needy student for a four month Evangelism training course at Kibidula Training Center.
- \$3,000 for tree planting for future timber industry.
- \$2,500 for 1 Grinding Mill.

*Please Send All Donations To:*  
Outpost Centers, International.  
5340 Layton Lane  
Apison, TN 37302  
U. S. A.

Please write your check to 'OCI' and specify 'Kibidula' and the Kibidula project you want to support. Thank you!!

**The Kibidula Mission Statement**

Kibidula is a supportive ministry of the SDA Church. Being a culturally and socially diverse team, it is our mission to be united and empowered through Christ and to joyfully serve the individual needs of every person we come in contact with, through interdependent cooperation with God and each other.

This we accomplish through:

- Education
- Evangelism
- Health - and Community Services.



## Welcome to the Mtenzi Family

We were thankful for the arrival at Kibidula in May of Pastor Msafiri Mtenzi along with his wife Jane and two sons, Joshua (3), and Emanuel (1). Pastor Mtenzi is an ordained Tanzanian pastor and will serve as our evangelism coordinator. In this capacity he will coordinate our evangelist activities as well as be in charge of our Lay Missionaries. He will also assist in teaching in our lay evangelism training program. He has just completed his four year degree in theology at Bugema University.

Pastor Mtenzi has a rich history of working together with Kibidula. Ten years ago, he was the pastor for this district and helped Kibidula develop its church planting outreach in unentered areas. Then, later, as Personal Ministries Director for Southwest Tanzania Field he assisted us in setting up our current network of lay missionaries in unentered areas and conducted a number of our evangelistic efforts himself. Last year, during his summer break from school he helped in doing 3 evangelistic efforts and building 3 churches for Kibidula. At that time he said, "If I go for an entire year without doing evangelism, I will die!" In addition he has served on our Kibidula Board of Directors and now, he has answered the call to join our team on a full time basis.

Next week he will leave for 4 weeks to coordinate 3

efforts and build 3 bush churches in Rukwa Valley. Last week Pastor Mtenzi and I were invited to attend a week long training session for all officers and departmental directors for every Union in this Division. We attended the publishing and global pioneer meetings and gave a presentation about our lay training school, and our work in unentered areas. During the meetings, the presidents of six Unions requested that we come and start projects within their territories. Please pray for Pastor Mtenzi and our Kibidula team as we seek to face the challenges that are placed before us.

*By Barry Mosier*



**Pastor Msafiri, Jane, Joshua and Emanuel**

### - the evidence of experience! -

"God invites us to prove for ourselves the reality of His Word, the truth of His promises. ... Instead of depending upon the word of another, we are to taste for ourselves. And as we draw near to Jesus, and rejoice in the fullness of His love, our doubt and darkness will disappear in the light of His presence.

#### **The Christian knows in whom he has believed.**

He does not only read his Bible; he experiences the power of its teaching. ... He can testify, ' I needed help, and I found it in Jesus. Every want was supplied, the hunger of my soul was satisfied; and now the Bible is to me the revelation of Jesus Christ.

**Do you ask why I believe in Jesus Christ?** Because He is to me a divine Savior.

**Why do I believe in the Bible?** Because I have found it to be the voice of God to my soul.' We may have the witness in ourselves that the Bible is true, that Christ is the Son of God. We know that we are not following cunningly devised fables.

Let the youth make the Word of God the food of mind and soul... Thus through faith they will come to know God by an

experimental knowledge. They have proved for themselves the reality of His Word, the truth of His promises. They have tasted, and they know that the Lord is good.

It is our privilege to reach higher and still higher for clearer revealings of the character of God... In His light shall we see light, until mind and soul are transformed into the image of His holiness."

*"O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him."*

*Psalms 34:8*

-E.G. White (The Faith I Live By, p. 16)



**“Badari!”**<sup>i</sup> Hmm...no answer. Must not be in the mood, I guess. **“Badari!”** Let's try smiling, maybe that's the trick. No, isn't working. Oh, wait! There comes another person. Let me try again. **“Badari!”** Still no answer? What am I doing wrong?! Is it because I'm an mzungu?<sup>ii</sup> And what's up with that strange look they give me each time? Do I have some bits of breakfast left on my face?? Quick check...no nothing! What is it then? Ok, someone else ahead, but this time I'm not greeting, they can greet me instead! Well, he's just about to pass me, now is the time for his greeting. Ah finally, his mouth is moving, now let's have it. **“Habari!”** What?! I'm dumbfounded; I must look like a fish bobbing for air on dry land. Have to pull myself together before I start looking like a fool. **“Nzuri!”** Ok, let's hurry away now, before my blush finishes creeping up my face. Well, I think this is a safe distance. How could I have been so stupid, how was such a mistake possible? It's not Badari but HABARI! No wonder about the strange look on everyone's face. Ok Jetro, pull yourself together, mistakes do tend to happen. There is no point in breaking my head over it, tomorrow, yes I will set things straight tomorrow. Just you wait and see...

#### The next day

Wow, nice morning today, perfect setting for my big comeback plan! Oh, there's one guy from yesterday coming towards me. Quick, let me mouth the word so I don't get it wrong this time. I'm not taking any risks! **“HA-BA-RI... HA-BA-RI...”** Ok, here I go...oh, no he's already greeting me. **“Good morning!”** What? **“Well, euh...Good morning!”** English?! Anyway, no matter, there comes someone else, let's forget about that minor setback. **“Habari!”** Finally! I have succeeded there where the day before today I had failed! Cheers for me! **“Good morning!”** Hey, wait no! You were supposed to say **NZURI!** To me!! Oh no, everyone is ignoring my limited Swahili now, they're all addressing me in English. Ok, I hereby declare it officially time to feel down...

I've been here at Kibidula for nearly two months and a half. I was asked to write an introduction of me, my self and I, thus for many people this article will merely be a confirmation of the human specimen they had already gotten to know.

I was born on a sunny fourth of August in the rich year of 1986 at a small hospital in Lisbon, Portugal. I was a bouncing baby boy with a cute complexion which soon enough began to degrade. I grew up in Portugal and around age 4-5 we moved to Belgium. So, at age five I

found myself in a new country not speaking the language, struggling to keep up, surrounded by people who were just getting to know me...

#### 14 years later

Summer vacation had just passed and I was supposed to be starting a major in Japanese language/culture and a minor in economy in the month of October, but I had some personal issues. So my parents decided for my good I should postpone the studies and maybe in the meanwhile do something useful like voluntary work. Part of me was disappointed but another part of me knew it was the wisest thing to do at the moment, so I agreed and started searching the internet for mission possibilities. Around January I was about to give up hope when something happened. A friend of our family had contacted someone in Tanzania and that someone (Thomas) had contacted my mom to tell her I could go. I was exhilarated! It still took 2-3 months before I could leave. This because of preparations and having to wait for my residency permit, but finally the

day arrived and I was leaving. I bade my parents farewell and gave my little sister a hug promising her to take care of myself and not stop thinking about her. As the airplane was escaping the grasp of its eternal foe, gravity, I couldn't help but feel sad at what I was leaving behind but happy knowing I was going to something unknown, something new and maybe better, who knew? ...

#### Present day

I am happy! I wake up in the morning feeling motivated and fit which is a big difference from my life in Europe. It's because I realize I don't have to face a mind killing western culture day with its share of boredom and disappointment. No! The day that awaits me will be one of discovery, challenge and most important: PURPOSE! I hope I'm making some kind of difference with my limited skills.



#### Jetro

I hope people here can feel a difference for me being here even if it's an ever so slight difference. I am teaching and working at the agricultural school and irony has it, I like to teach. <sup>iii</sup> I've fallen in love with the texture of blackboard, the aroma of chalk and schoolbooks, but most important, I have taken a liking to my students. Everyday I pray that I might make a difference in my student's life, teaching them something that will stick to them and in some way help as to make them accomplish something in life. With the help of Kibidula and my Heavenly Father it will surely be no problem.

I hope this suffices to qualify as a proper introduction. As an extra for the brave readers who are still with me, underneath is a short summary of myself:

**My name is Jetro Levi Dias Santos Vieira.**

**I am 19 years old, nearing 20.**

**I am Belgian Portuguese/Portuguese Belgian (depends on the country I'm in). <sup>iv</sup>**

**I am a Seventh-day Adventist.**

**I had to learn four languages:**

*Continued on page 6...*

o n c e u p o n a t i m e a t k i b i d u l a . . .

## Books and Bicycles for Front Line Workers

“We have no capital to buy books and there are no books to buy!” These have been the common cries of literature evangelists (LE’s) in Tanzania. First, we asked God to help us to supply more books. Over the last year He opened the way for us to establish 9 book stores across Tanzania to help make books available for LE’s to buy.

Now, thanks to faithful ones who have helped with books and funds, Kibidula has been able to address the second part of the call. Over the past three months we have distributed 73,432 Swahili and English books and magazines to 928 LE’s in Tanzania. This represents a retail value of \$68,000 in total or about \$73 worth of books to each LE. Much of the material was Spirit of Prophecy books including Desire of Ages and Great Controversy. We are thrilled to see this truth going out! Each LE has pledged to use his new capital only to repurchase more books to

resell as we seek to empower this army of literature evangelists to help finish the work.

Four Hundred kilometers (240 miles) by bicycle over 7 days on dirt roads? This was the report from the North East Congo at our recent Division meetings as they explained how far one worker had come with his new bicycle to attend their meetings. So far in our ASI funded program to supply bicycles to front line workers in war torn countries, 569 bicycles have been purchased. We trust that the number will reach 1,100 before the end of this year. We were told, “These bicycles have completely changed the work in our Union! Now, workers are traveling much farther with the Gospel and they are so enthusiastic because of these bicycles.”

We praise God for the privilege we have of being part of helping to enable and encourage these faithful workers in the front lines of God’s work. Thank you to those who have helped to make this help available.

*By Barry Mosier*



**Top Left:** Kibidula team preparing books.

**Above:** Books to NETCO Conference publishing leaders.

**Left:** Literature evangelist receiving a bag of books.

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Below: A Group of students and staff from Oakwood College, Alabama, conducted 15 evangelistic campaigns in Mbeya.

Front Row Center:

Pastor & Mrs. Mutani, SWTF;

Dr. & Mrs. Samson, Oakwood College.



From May 26 - June 10, 2006 'Share Him' conducted more than 25 evangelistic campaigns in the cities Iringa and Mbeya. Jason Fournier from Kibidala translated for 14-year old Eric Samson from Alabama, USA and 16 people were baptized at his sight as a result of spirited preaching and the working of the Holy Spirit upon the peoples' hearts. We want to thank the South West Tanzania Field President, Pastor Mutani, and his dedicated staff for helping to make these efforts a success! For more details and other information on 'Share Him' please visit their website at: [www.sharehim.org](http://www.sharehim.org)

*Once Upon a Time at Kibidala' (Continued from page 4...)*

Dutch, French, English, Portuguese and I understand Spanish and German.

My hobbies are reading, writing, fishing ♪, wandering, dreaming and teaching my students!

May God bless you all!

<sup>i</sup> Badari is a meaningless word in Swahili; the proper greeting word is of course habari.

<sup>ii</sup> Mzungu is a Swahili word, meaning white person.

<sup>iii</sup> I used to despise physics and now I'm teaching it.

<sup>iv</sup> In Belgium I am a Belgian Portuguese because of my origin, in Portugal I'm a Portuguese Belgian because of having lived in Belgium nearly all my life.

<sup>v</sup> For the curious amongst you, I haven't caught **ANYTHING** yet! But that could be because I use banana and bread as bait.

*By Jetro Levi Dias Santos Vieira*